

honourably fulfilled her part. One of the reasons tauntingly assigned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to him (Mr. Haliburton) the other evening, for not considering the interest of the colonies, in the commercial treaty with France, was, that the colonists had imposed taxes upon the introduction of English manufactures into their country.

Now he did not stand there to apologise for this, to those who had no right to call them to account. If they had thought proper to do so, it must be recollected that they had a perfect right to impose what taxes they pleased. The theory of Government under which they lived was, that for all internal matters they were supreme; but that all external matters were within the jurisdiction of the parent state. If the Chancellor of the Exchequer had known any thing about the colonies, he would have known that both there and in the United States there was a great repugnance to direct taxation. Both countries relied on the imposition of indirect taxes, and he recollected, that when he was a member of the Legislature of Nova Scotia, the people were unwilling to submit to be taxed, even for the support of common schools, notwithstanding their great desire to extend the benefit of education to the entire population. Nor must it be forgotten, that if there were high imposts in the shape of customs dues, they paid those dues themselves, and they submitted to them most willingly, because a large revenue was necessary for developing, by means of canals and railways, the resources of the country. They were imposed, not